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"To Make the Best Better"

Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Leader

Issued monthly in the interest of the rural boys' and girls' 4-H clubs conducted by the cooperative extension service of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Agricultural Colleges

Vol. I, No. 1.

Washington, D. C.

January, 1927

MESSAGE TO EXTENSION WORKERS



4-H CLUB WORK is a big and far-reaching movement. It is bound to affect agriculture and rural life in this country increasingly as the years go by. Much vision will be needed in guiding the movement aright. The purpose of this publication is to increase public interest in club work, to provide a means for the interchange of ideas among club



workers, and to knit club folks more closely together. In its preparation we want the counsel of all engaged in club work. I am proud to take part in such an undertaking. Best wishes for the New Year to all 4-H club workers and club members.

C. W. Earhart

FOREWORD

We place at your service with the beginning of the year 1927 this new publication of the Office of Cooperative Extension Work, THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H CLUB LEADER. This service was requested of us a year ago by the extension directors.

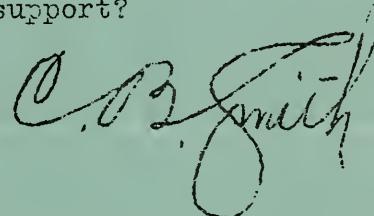
We propose to issue this publication monthly to all extension agents. It is intended to serve as a clearing house on boys' and girls' 4-H club work for the entire field staff. We plan to include in each number whatever comes to our attention of note in boys' and girls' club work throughout the country. We wish the publication to be helpful in the information and suggestions given to all club leaders whether State, county, or local. We hope you will like it.



As we settle down in extension work, we see that youth can play a most important part in the program. If we begin our instruction with the boys and girls and guide them aright, we will have less correcting to do with adults and will increase the chances of these boys and girls for success in farm life when they reach manhood and womanhood.

Club work is the great organization for country youth. It gives inspiration and guidance to farm boys and girls as well as instruction in agriculture and home economics. Through it, cooperation, one of the biggest needs in rural life, is being taught, as well as thrift, pride of occupation, the virtue of ownership, the desire to help. There are 11,000,000 rural boys and girls from 10 to 18 years of age in the United States. Of this number, about 600,000 are enrolled as 4-H club members. It is our hope that every rural boy or girl desiring the benefits of 4-H club membership shall have the opportunity to receive them. Nothing short of this goal will suffice.

Through THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H CLUB LEADER, we aim to give emphasis to the club phase of the whole extension program, to increase the effectiveness of club work as an agency for demonstrating better farm and home practices, and to strengthen the service of all extension agents to the boys and girls of rural America. May we count on your support?

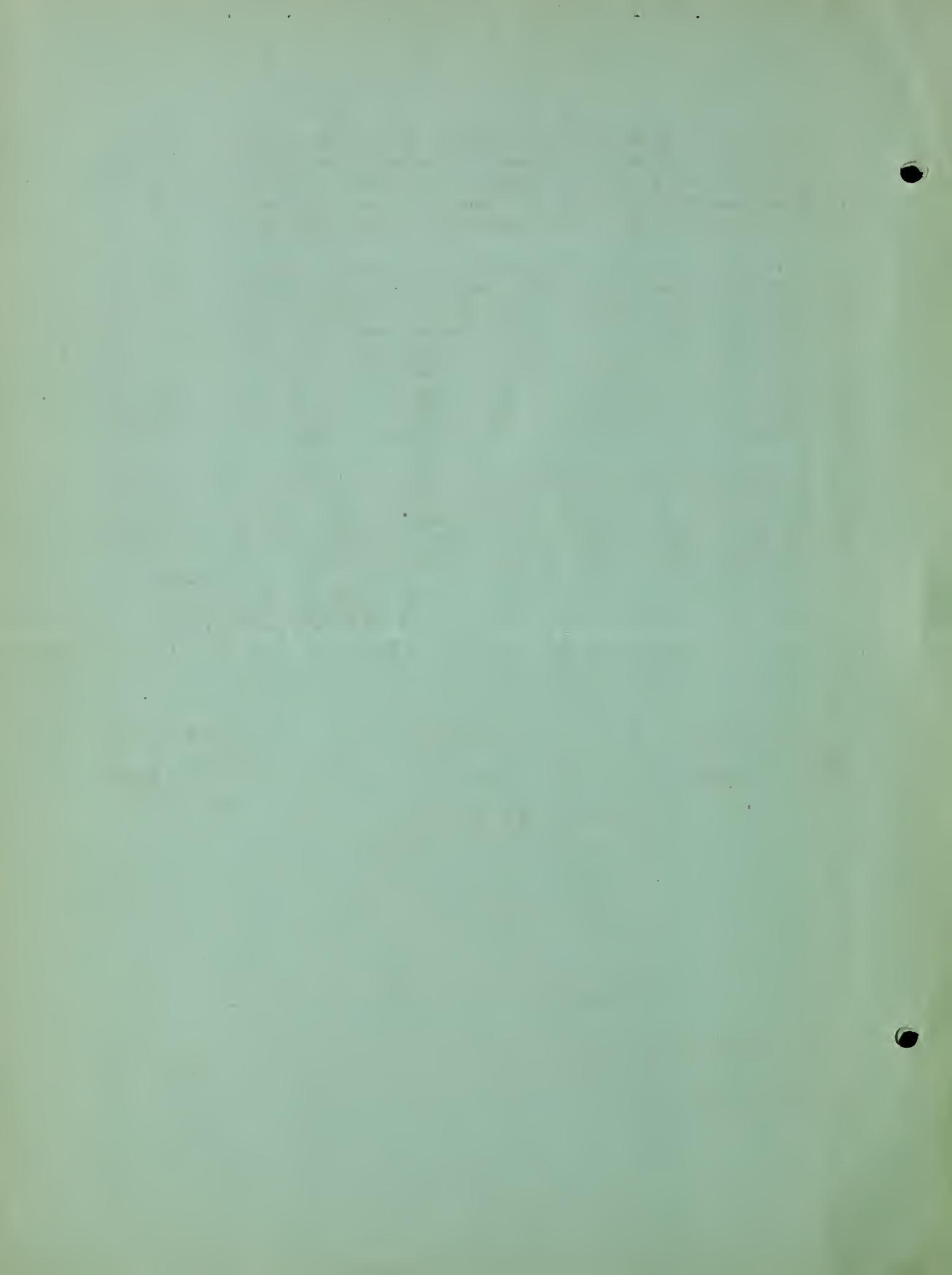


A 4-H PLEDGE



As an earnest club member I dedicate
My hands to honest labor,
My health to useful endeavor,
My head to straight thinking,
My heart to human happiness -
All in devoted loyalty to my club,
my community, my State, and my Country.

A HAPPY SUGGESTION for the New Year comes from a friend and well-wisher outside the ranks of club workers, in the form of the 4-H pledge given above. This pledge speaks for itself. Write and tell us how you like it.





THE NATIONAL 4-H CAMP OF 1927

WHAT? The national farm boys' and girls' 4-H club camp.

WHERE? Washington, D. C.

WHEN? June 16 to 22, 1927.

WHY? Read the statement below.

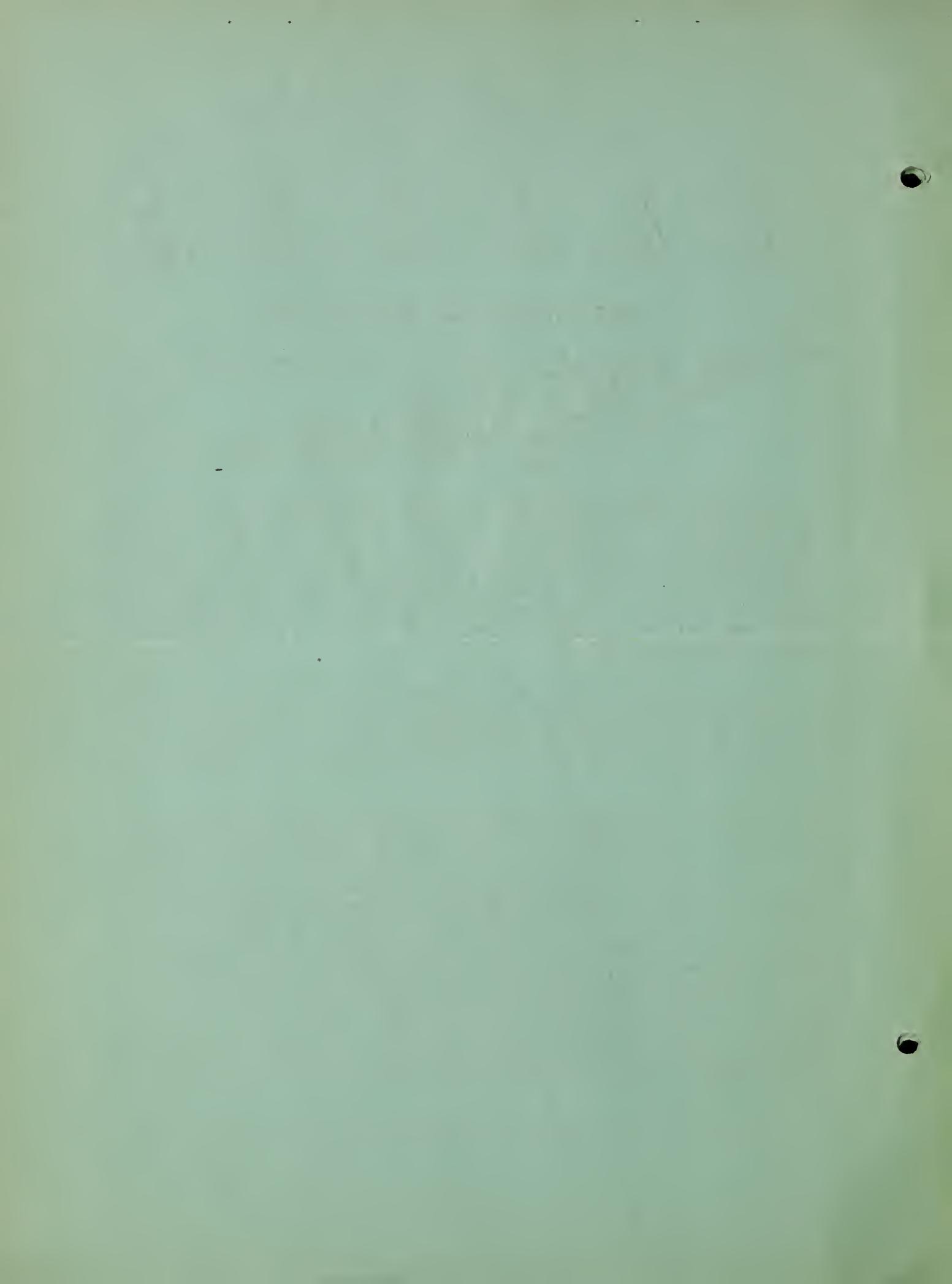
WHO GOES AND HOW? Ask your State club agent or leader. Let's go!!!

The club members attending the camp will represent the 600,000 farm boys and girls enrolled in the 4-H clubs of the cooperative extension service. Each State is entitled to select two boys and two girls from its 4-H club membership as its representatives, making a total of nearly 200 club members, selected for outstanding accomplishment, who are expected to attend the camp. The delegation from each State will be accompanied by a member of the club staff of the State extension division.

The object of the camp is to provide an opportunity for training and discussion in regard to club work and to study ways in which the work may be expanded so that all farmers and farm women in the future will have had as boys and girls the benefits of membership in the 4-H clubs.

CAMP PROGRAM A seven-day program for the camp was presented by the IS OUTLINED department to the State directors of extension and approved by them at the November meeting of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. The camp will be located on the department grounds near the famous California redwood tree, and a stone's throw from the office of the Big Boss - the Secretary of Agriculture. Each morning following the usual flag raising, setting-up exercises, and a swim in the municipal bathing pools, there will be inspirational addresses in the assembly hall by national leaders in Government affairs. During the day, separate group conferences for the club boys and girls and for the State club workers on subjects selected for discussion by them are planned. Several joint meetings of the junior and adult groups for the exchange of viewpoints and ideas will be held.

Write us for your copy of the day-by-day program of the camp.



SEEING WASHINGTON Educational trips about Washington will make the campers acquainted with the organization of their Government and the work of its various branches. The Capitol, Washington Monument, the White House, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and Mount Vernon will be among the many places of historic national interest visited. Also there will be a trip to the Zoo and beautiful Rock Creek Park. A whole shipload of new and wonderful animals has just arrived at the Zoo - more of them later.



The evenings will be full of interest. One evening, the United States Marine Band, now on a tour of the country, will give a concert especially prepared for the boys and girls at the camp. There will be a 4-H radio evening. A candle-lighting ceremony and council fire will be held in the Sylvan Theatre on the grounds of the Washington Monument on another evening. Still another, perhaps, will be spent at the old mill in Rock Creek Park. And more things yet are planned!!

WHO IS GOING TO WASHINGTON? That is the question of the hour in the 4-H club world. Arkansas answers: Hazel Craig of El Dorado; Madeline Tankersley of Fort Smith; Maudrele Ferguson of Hermitage; and Haywood Lloyd of Blue Mountain.

Looks like they head the register. How about it?

Tennessee hopes to have delegates chosen by January 1, Texas immediately after, and there are rumors of many more, so there will be new names to be posted right along. Let us have them for publication in the next issue of THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H CLUB LEADER.



PICKING DELEGATES The Arkansas boys and girls had first a county contest, writes W. J. Jernigan, their State club agent. The score card had main headings subdivided to cover a number of features in club work and took into consideration records of past years. A boy and a girl selected in this way from each county were sent to the State fair club congress at Little Rock this fall for a final scoring by the same test, which determined the winners of the trip to the National Camp.

Each county home demonstration agent in Tennessee, reports Margaret A. Ambrose, assistant home demonstration director in the State, is using a score card to determine the girl in the county who ranks highest. The records then go to the district office and the best from each district is then to be sent to the State office. Committees with a representative from the Federation of Women's Clubs and one from the Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, will be asked to assist in the final judging in the State office and probably in most of the counties and districts, as these organizations are financing the girls' trips.

Texas club delegates will have to stand test on a six-point score card covering three years' work, says Sterling Evans, State boys' club agent. An extension staff committee adopted rules for the contest requiring club members entered to be at least 15 years old with three years of club work completed and their records and reports in the State office not later than January 1, 1927. His boys are working hard for it, he writes.

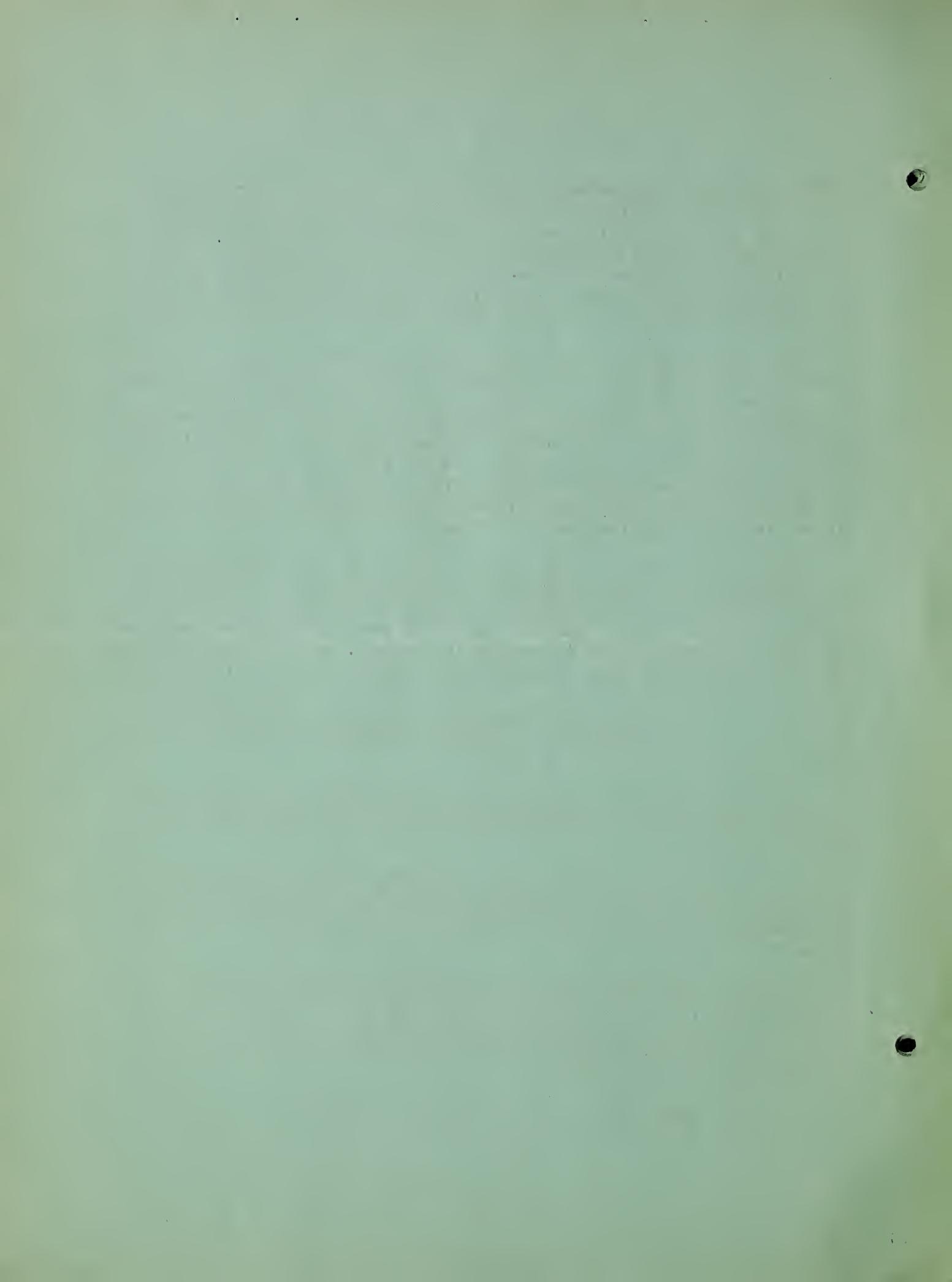
WHO PAYS THE BILL? Well, said Louisiana State 4-H organization, let's have each club member contribute 5 cents, then we can all feel we have a share in the trip.

Ever-ready club of Donnelly, Minn., heard State club leader T. A. Erickson pondering this problem aloud and sent a \$15 contribution to start Minnesota's fund.

A cake started the ball rolling in Texas. It was auctioned off at this year's short course. How about a Lone-Star State cakewalk? Then the Texas Bankers' Association gave two trips and the agricultural club of Dallas the fourth.

Arkansas State Fair requested the honor of sending the four delegates from that State, and the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs and Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs are sending the Tennessee girls. Director Keffer writes that the Tennessee boys are provided for but does not give the method.

Come on, everybody, let's hear how you are doing it?

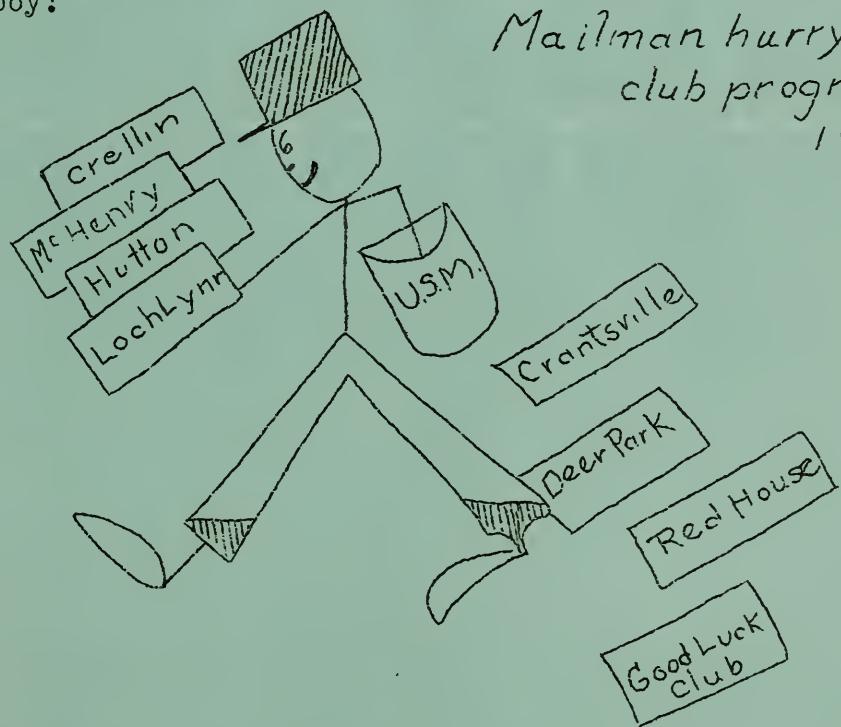


REPORTS, ENROLLMENT, PROGRAMS This is 1927. Are those reports for 1926 from local leaders all in? How is the 1927 enrollment coming? What of the programs for the new year? Let's hear about these things in the February issue of the Leader. H. C. Seymour, State club leader, Oregon, writes, "Our clubs are sending in enrollment blanks to the State office. They are also sending in their programs of work for the coming year." Off to a good start, Oregon!

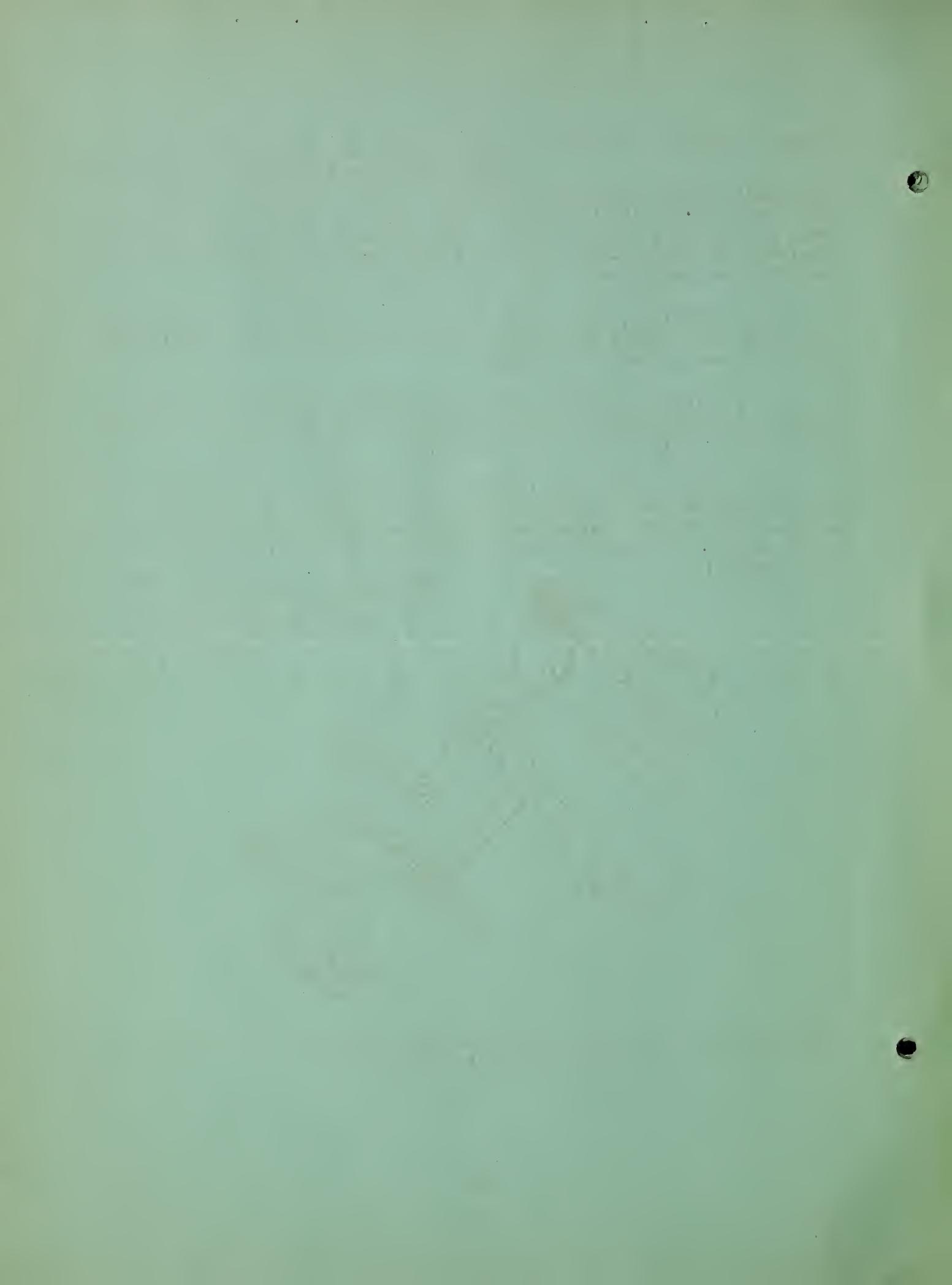
R. W. Blacklock, State boys' club agent, Florida, writes that the state-wide club enrollment week in October netted a 25 per cent increase over last year. Good for Florida!

W. R. Ralston, assistant State club leader, California, says, "California's enrollment for 1926 was 65 per cent greater than in 1925, with approximately 70 per cent completions." Now for 1927!

H. M. Jones, State club leader, South Dakota, send this little gem. When reorganization time came around for the poultry club of Montrose, S. Dak., the president appointed a committee of boys on enrollment. They immediately went to work. The club had six members before. Now it has 29. Attaboy!



Reproduced by courtesy of the Garrett club newspaper of the girls' 4-H clubs of Garrett County, Md.



LOCAL LEADERS BEGIN TRAINING Now is the time for local leaders to train for the benefit of their clubs, say South Dakota, Michigan, Iowa, South Carolina, California, Minnesota, and other States. And what's more, they're doing it.

South Dakota has had county meetings for club leaders in Stanley and Brown Counties. More than 50 leaders attended the meetings in Stanley County, some of them traveling 75 miles.

Michigan club leaders in several counties have attended training schools for club work to be done during the winter.

Iowa plans to hold leaders' training schools in all counties by the end of February.

In South Carolina, Pickens County local leaders are holding training conferences every three months.

California says present indications are that about 60 per cent of the past season's local leaders will continue serving in 1927.

Minnesota has scheduled leaders' training schools for Scott, Rice, Lyon, St. Louis, Blue Earth, and Fillmore Counties, and short courses have been arranged in Sherburne, Morrison, Houston, and Winona Counties. Minnesota had 312 junior club leaders in 1926.

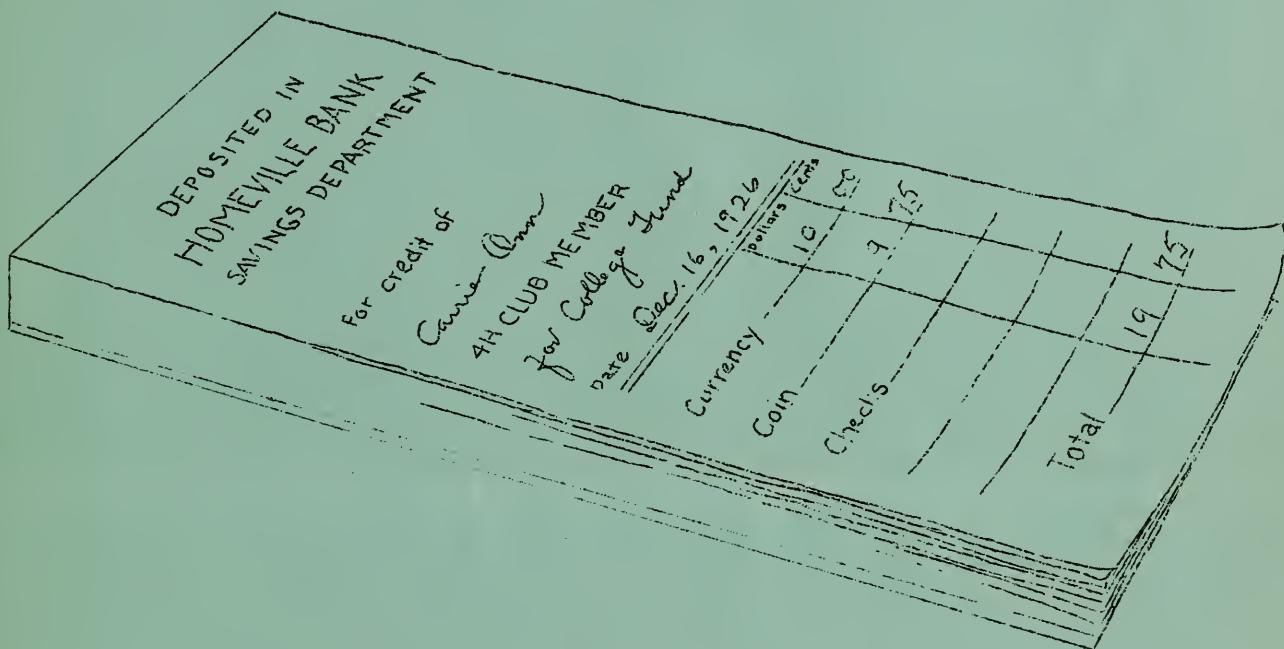
4-H CAMPS South Carolina held 29 county club camps and short courses for boys the past summer with an attendance of 1,500.

More than 1,500 persons attended the 1926 club encampment at Davis, Calif. The camp was held in two sections.

South Dakota held 11 club camps with 877 boys and girls in attendance last summer. Two camps organized on a permanent basis, at Aberdeen and Pierre, the club members electing officers from among their own number. The year before permanent camps were organized at Lennox and Newell.



TO COLLEGE! TO COLLEGE! Edwin I. Pilchard, specialist in junior club work, Illinois, reports with pardonable pride the percentage of club members entering the college of agriculture at the University of Illinois, Urbana, for the past four years as being 55 per cent of those matriculating. Nearly 55 per cent of the boys entering the college from farms this year were club members. The three members of the Illinois dairy-judging team, which won the international championship in England in 1924, are all enrolled at the college. Donald Williams is a junior, while Harold Gaulrapp and Edwin Folkers are freshmen.



ON THEIR WAY Lois P. Dowdle, State girls' club agent, Georgia, tells of the growth of the go-to-college idea among Georgia club girls. Among those earning money through their club work for college expenses are: Louise Price of Polk County, who is canning, selling honey, selling peppers from her garden, winning prizes on her sewing and other exhibits, and keeping her eyes open for chances at scholarships; Hodane Marchbanks of Gainesville, who is a crack poultry judge and canner and is a senior at the Fifth District A. & M. School with the state college of agriculture as her next goal; Gertrude McDuffie of Carnesville, whose college fund is growing steadily from sales of honeysuckle baskets, flowers, and products of her garden; Elsie Todd of Clarke County, who is paying high-school expenses and aiming at college with perennial and annual gardens and canned products; and Clara and Gladys Caskey of Hall County, who are finishing high school and planning for college by way of canning, fruits and vegetables of 4-H standards.



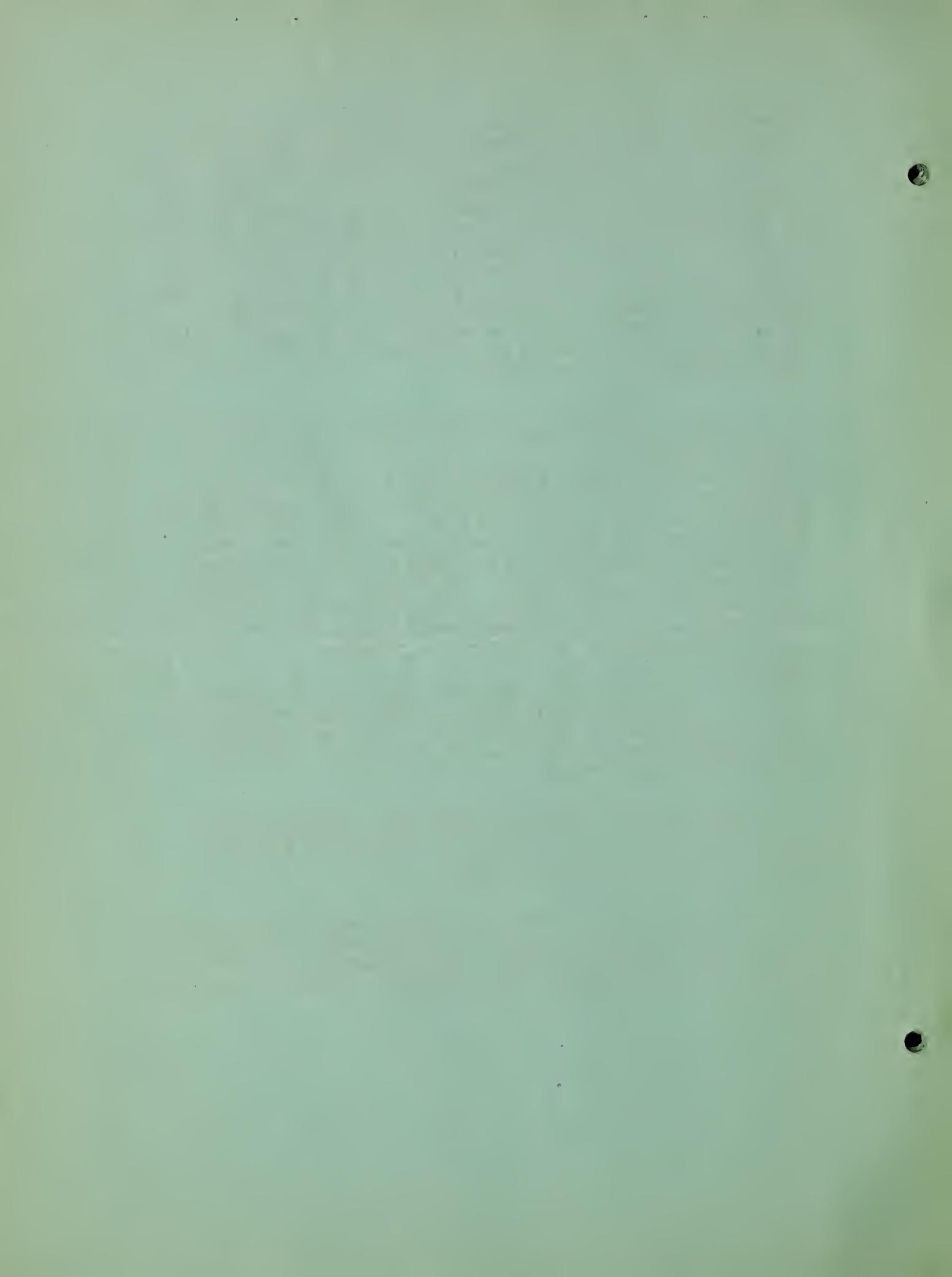
GALA EVENTS The dedication to 4-H club work of Camp Plummer at
IN FAR WEST the Pacific International Livestock Exposition,
 Portland, Oreg., was an event in which club members
of all the Western States rejoiced. It came about through the
interest of General Manager Plummer in the boys and girls and
their enthusiastic response to the opportunities which the exposi-
tion afforded. And that explains, too, why it is named Camp
Plummer. It will be to the West what Camp Vail at the Eastern
States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., is to the East, and what
Camp Eaton at Sioux City Interstate Fair is to the Midwest.
W. A. Lloyd, regional agent, in charge, Western States, United
States Department of Agriculture extension service, accepted the
camp on behalf of extension work.

Utah is bustling about getting ready for the visit of
O. M. Plummer, general manager of the Pacific International
Livestock Exposition, Portland, Oreg., who is coming to make
official awards to Mary Elizabeth Ogden and Melba Lloyd of
Richfield, Utah, who won first place in a girls' demonstration
contest at the recent exposition and club camp. Gold medals
are to be given the girls and to the State office at Logan
goes a United States flag, on the staff of which is a silver
plate bearing the girls' names. The flag will be theirs for
one year and then will be up for competition among the Western
States again. The girls demonstrated making a bungalow apron
complete from drafting the pattern to finishing.

BANQUETS for club members and their friends are in season.
 California recently had a unique father-and-son af-
fair at Bakersfield, with 285 present. This was Bakersfield's
third annual event of this kind. Club baby beef done to a
turn was the menu feature.

Minnesota 4-H club achievement days, sponsored by the
local Kiwanis clubs, were held in Benson, Appleton, Fergus
Falls, Alexandria, and other places. It goes without saying
that here there were banquets, also.

Maryland reports a calf-club banquet with invited guests
in Kent County, a banquet tendered by the Kiwanis in Frederick
County, and a banquet spread for all club members and their
friends in Harford County. All, of course, served a la Maryland.



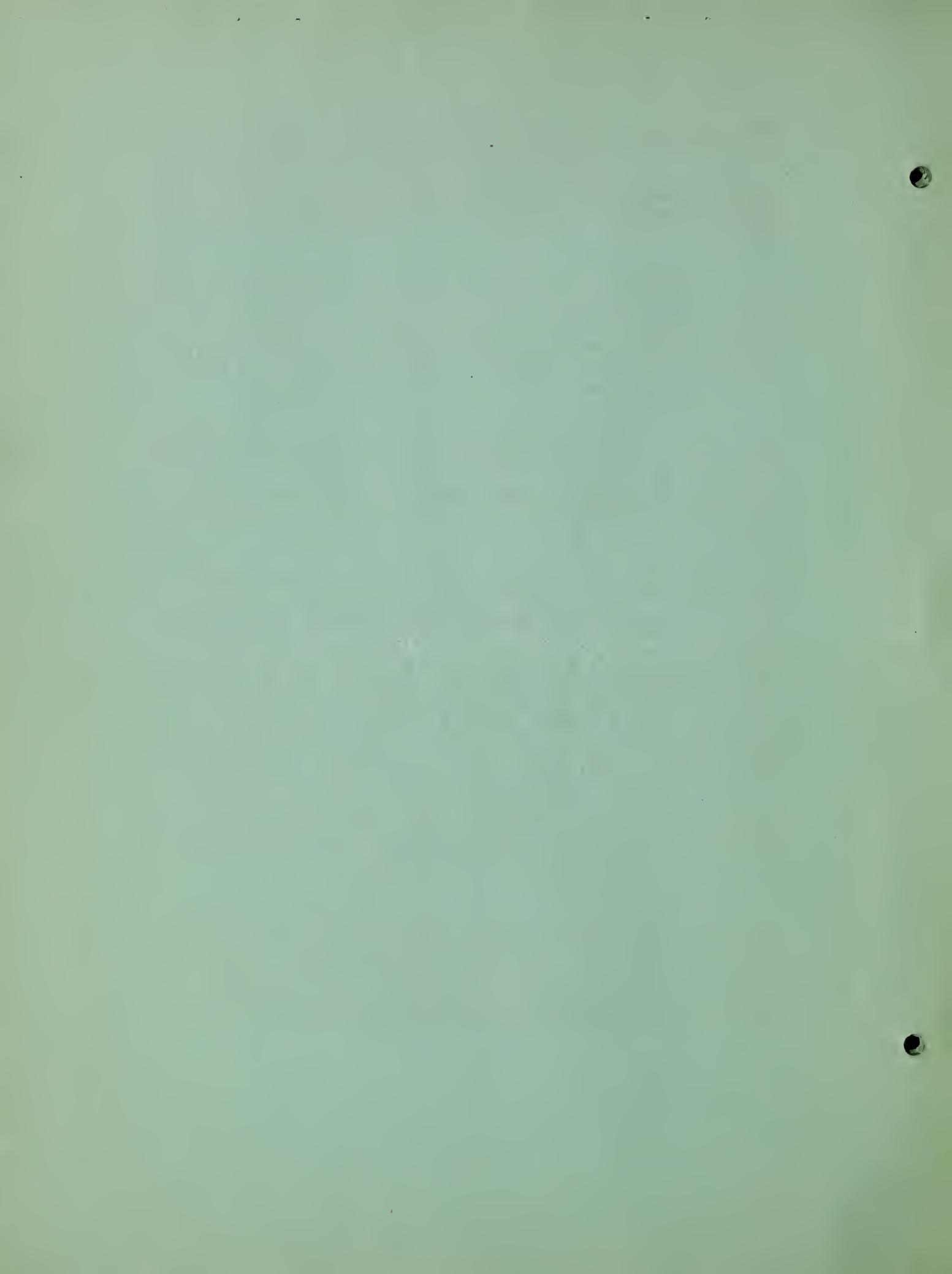
FIFTH NATIONAL CLUB CONGRESS A thousand outstanding club boys and girls, representing 41 States, attended the Fifth National Club Congress held in Chicago November 26 to December 2, during the International Livestock Exposition, through the efforts of the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work.

Wyoming's team, Gerald Osgard, Winfield Jeffers, and Lloyd Watson of Sheridan County, coached by County Agent John A. Goe, won the cattle-judging contest. The clothing-judging contest was won by Label Graving of North Dakota, who also won in bread judging. First place in the judging of canned goods was won by Claire Frink of Nebraska.

At the junior livestock show more than 90 club animals were shown. The grand champion steer of the show was a Hereford, winning for this breed for the first time in a number of years. It was fed by Ray Greathouse of Hindsboro, Ill. The reserve champion was the Aberdeen-Angus of Wendell Morgan, Aledo, Ill.

Grand championship in corn went to Thomas L. Lux of Shelbyville, Ind. The cotton exhibit contest was won by Georgia. Minnesota's potatoes, grown by Lloyd Flint, Robert Felkstone, Robert Shogren, Clara Frygstad, and Dale Olson of Carlton, St. Louis, and Itasca Counties, won first place. In clothing exhibited, first place for complete outfit for school and street wear was won by Esther Seitmann, for children's garments by Ethel Duerst, both Iowa girls. Nina Jones of Iowa won first place in room improvement. The canned foods from Carter County, Okla., were among the exhibits of canned goods. The health contest for boys was won by Warren Griffin of Ballard County, Ky. In the contest for girls first place was tied for by Alberta Hoppe of Linn County, Iowa, and Janette Rushing of Sunflower County, Miss. The Moses leadership trophy went to Kenneth Hinshaw of Klickitat County, Wash.

Special study of the livestock exposition showings was made by the club members under the direction of their leaders. Educational tours were also made during the week to places in and about Chicago of especial interest to the boys and girls through the kindness of the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work and its enthusiastic secretary, G. L. Noble.



CLUB BOYS STEP OUT More than 200 corn-club exhibits were shown at the last South Carolina State Fair. For two successive years club boys have exhibited the sweepstakes 10-year exhibit at this fair, the 1925 exhibit also winning a cup as the best in eight Southern States.

The grand champion Duroc sow at the Florida State Fair, Jacksonville, November 11 to 19, was fed by a club boy, Russell Henderson of Madison County. A club led by a former club boy, Lewis Floyd, won a silver loving cup offered in Escambia County for the best local club in the county.

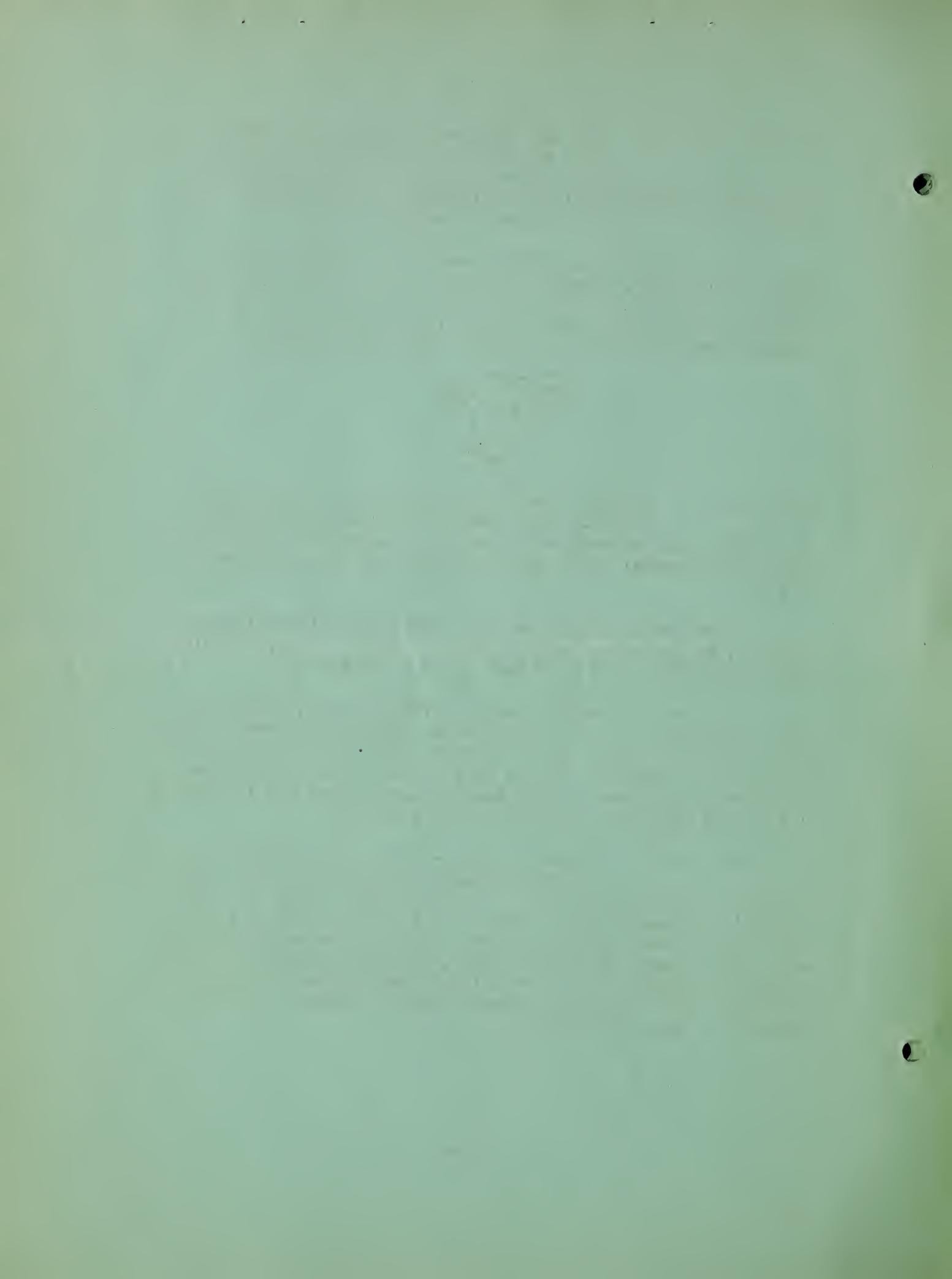


STOCK SHOWS UP Club livestock has been taking in the shows lately. More than 500 calves were exhibited by Kentucky club members at the Bourbon Stockyards, Louisville, in the fifth annual State baby beef show and sale, November 17 to 19.

Ninety-one Indiana boys and girls exhibited calves December 6, at the second annual junior livestock show, Cleveland, Ohio, sponsored by the Cleveland Union Stockyards Co.

At the ninth annual Junior Livestock Show, South St. Paul, November 8 to 12, 610 Minnesota club members showed calves, hogs, lambs, chickens, geese, turkeys, and ducks. When the show was over, the winners were put on a special train for a week's tour through Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana for the benefit of the boys and girls who were not at the show.

LEADERSHIP CONTEST Winners of the 4-H leadership contest held by the Farm Journal, Philadelphia, Pa., were announced in the December number of the Journal. Boys and girls competed in separate divisions. In the girls' division, the first three places went as follows: First place to Esther Seitmann, Iowa; second to Leona F. Gale, Michigan; third to Bernice Halloway, Arkansas. The three highest boys placed in the following order: Homer Sheffield, Texas; Charlie Goodwin, New York; Clarence A. May, West Virginia.

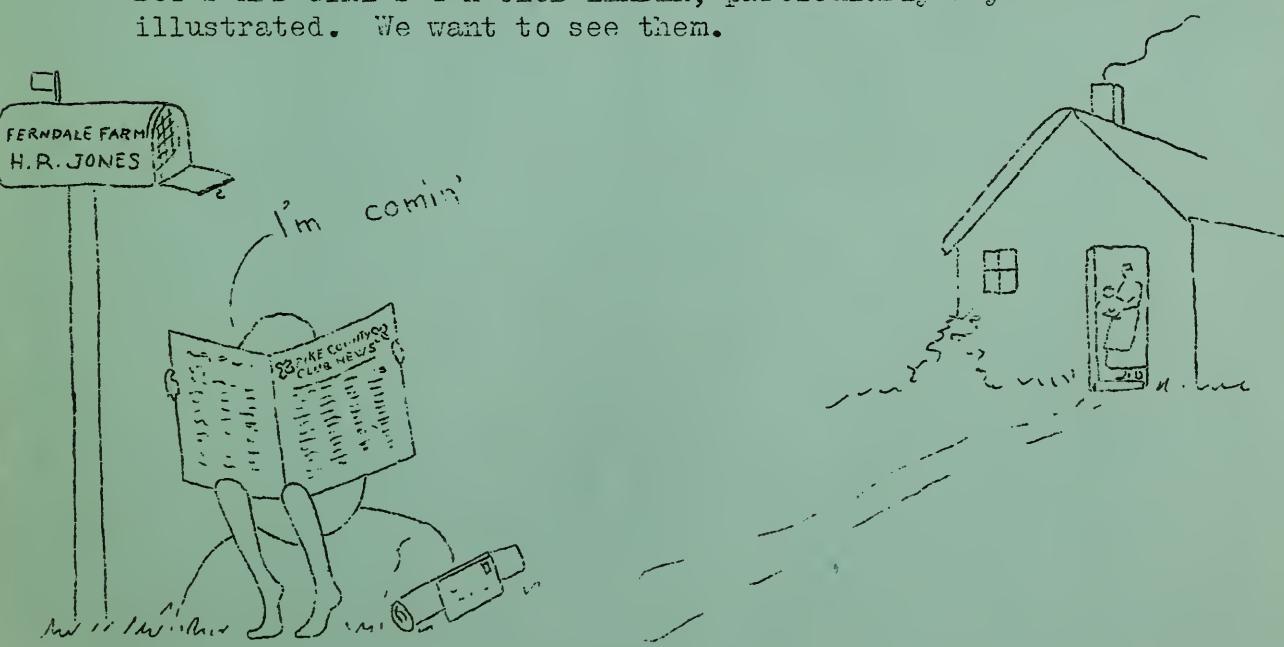


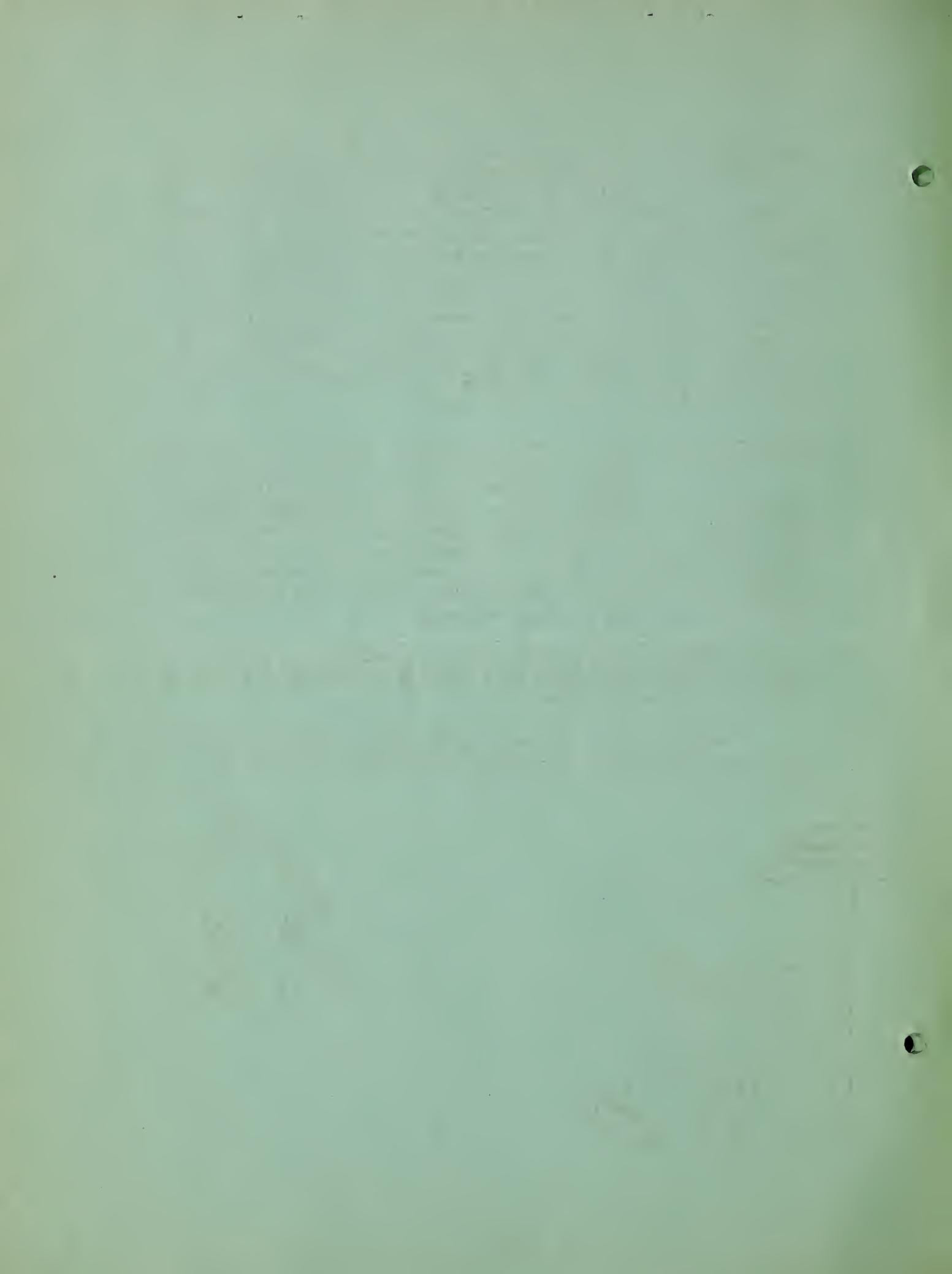
SHARPENING THAT NOSE FOR NEWS Iowa club girls have been taking the matter of getting club news into their local papers seriously. H. J. Letcalf, who handles the news for the State extension service, offered to hold some news-writing schools for them last spring. The clubs took him at his word and kept him busy. He got around to nearly 30 counties by September but he couldn't hold new schools and at the same time keep on helping effectively the first comers with the troubles they found in their news-writing ventures. So he is solving the problem by getting out a monthly newspaper for these club reporters. It is called the Extension News Writer and contains news-writing hints, lists of books to read, and items telling what the different reporters are doing.

MARYLAND'S NEW CLUB NEWSPAPERS Two Maryland clubs began issuing their own news-papers recently. Garrett County club girls are issuing "The Garrett," with the following departments, "The Spinning Wheel," "Skylight," "Treasure Chest," and "Window." There is an editor-in-chief and each department has its own editor. Each of the seven clubs in the county has a reporter, who sends in the local news to "The Garrett" and the girls are publishers, typewriting the copy and illustrating their paper with drawings and cut-outs.

Baltimore County club boys are chronicling the high points of their club doings in a four-page mimeographed paper, called "The Four-Leaf Clover."

Send in sample copies of your club publications to THE BOY'S AND GIRL'S 4-H CLUB LEADER, particularly any that are illustrated. We want to see them.





FACTS FOR CLUB TALKS What is 4-H club work? Who does it? Where is it done? How many farm boys and girls are engaged in it? What do they accomplish? These are some of the questions we often want to answer in a club talk. Here are some of the answers to these questions:

What is 4-H club work?

Boys' and girls' 4-H club work is a part of the national agricultural extension system, by means of which instruction in agriculture and home economics is given to rural boys and girls by the United States Department of Agriculture, the land-grant colleges, and local agencies cooperating. The instruction is given by means of farm, home, and community demonstrations and club activities, carried on by the young people themselves for the purpose (1) of helping country boys and girls to improve rural farm and home practices and the social life of their own communities, (2) of showing them the possibilities of rural life, (3) of aiding those who so desire to become efficient farmers and home makers, and (4) of teaching rural boys and girls how to make of themselves public-spirited, useful citizens and leaders in rural affairs.

Who does it?

4,960 paid State and Federal employees giving one-quarter to one-third of their time to club work and 47,995 volunteer unpaid local club leaders.

Where is it done?

On the farms and in the farm homes of every State in the Union and in more than 2,000 of our 2,800 agricultural counties.

How many farm boys and girls are engaged in club work?

In 1925 there were 565,046 club members; 224,652 boys and 340,413 girls.

What do club members accomplish?

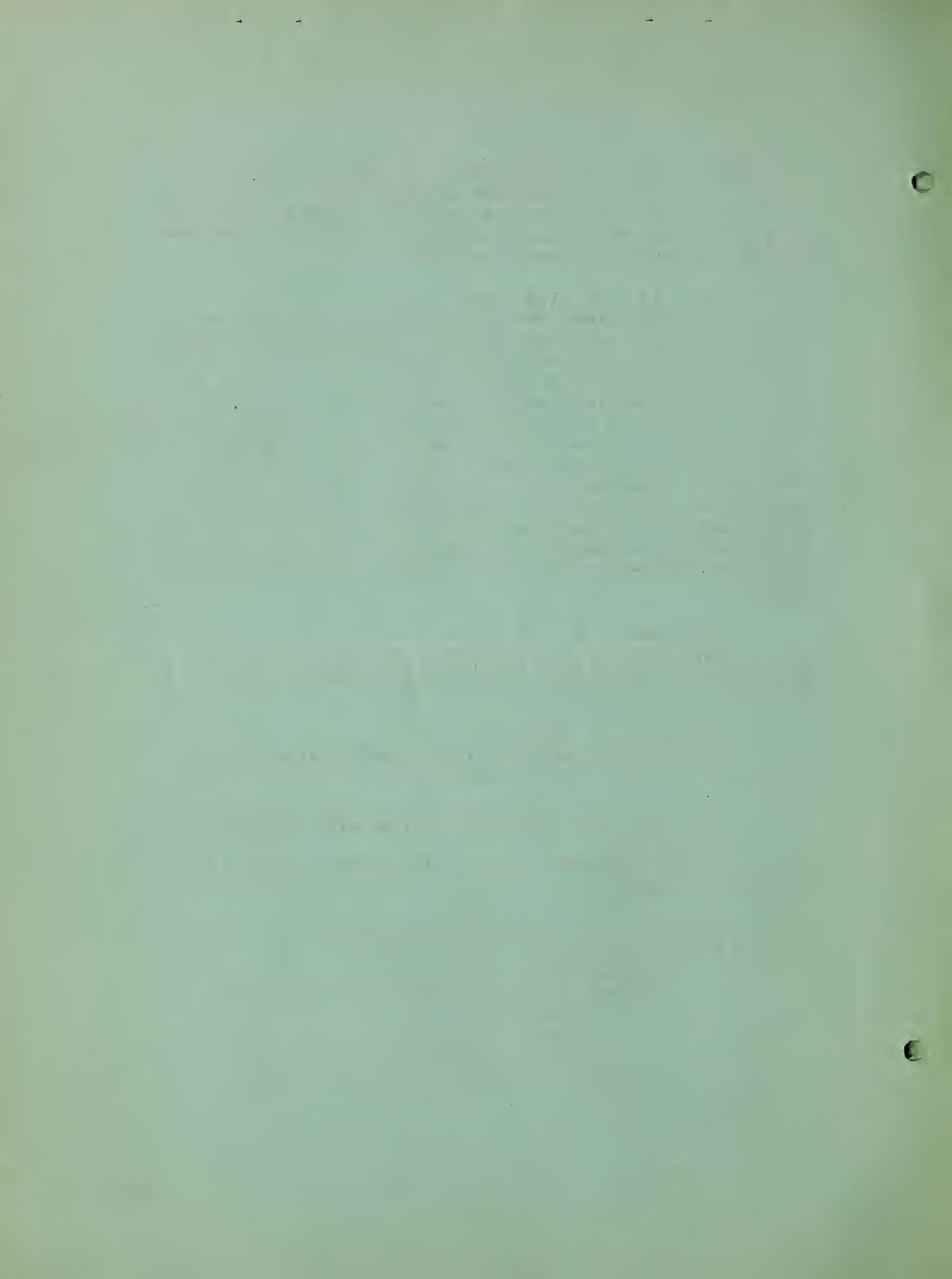
In 1925 there were:

1,079,604 club projects started.

589,440 projects, with reports and exhibits were completed.

2,051 encampments held, attended by 118,498 club members.

10,997 club members who entered college.



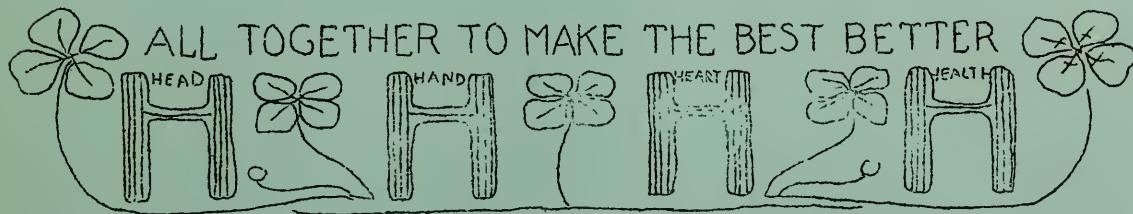
TURNING OVER THE NEW LEAF Every 4-H club member should have a program chart, believes W. H. Kendrick, in charge of club work in West Virginia. Furthermore, every club member should do the things each month that are listed in the club plan on the chart. So Kendrick sends to the secretary of every club a large blank program chart on which the plans for the year may be written. There is space for the name of the club, the club motto, the colors, names of officers and members. Under each month of the year is a place to write what the club will do that month to develop each of the four H's, and a space in which to put a star opposite the name of each club member who accomplishes what is planned. May your blank pages of 1927 be filled with stars by the end of the year!

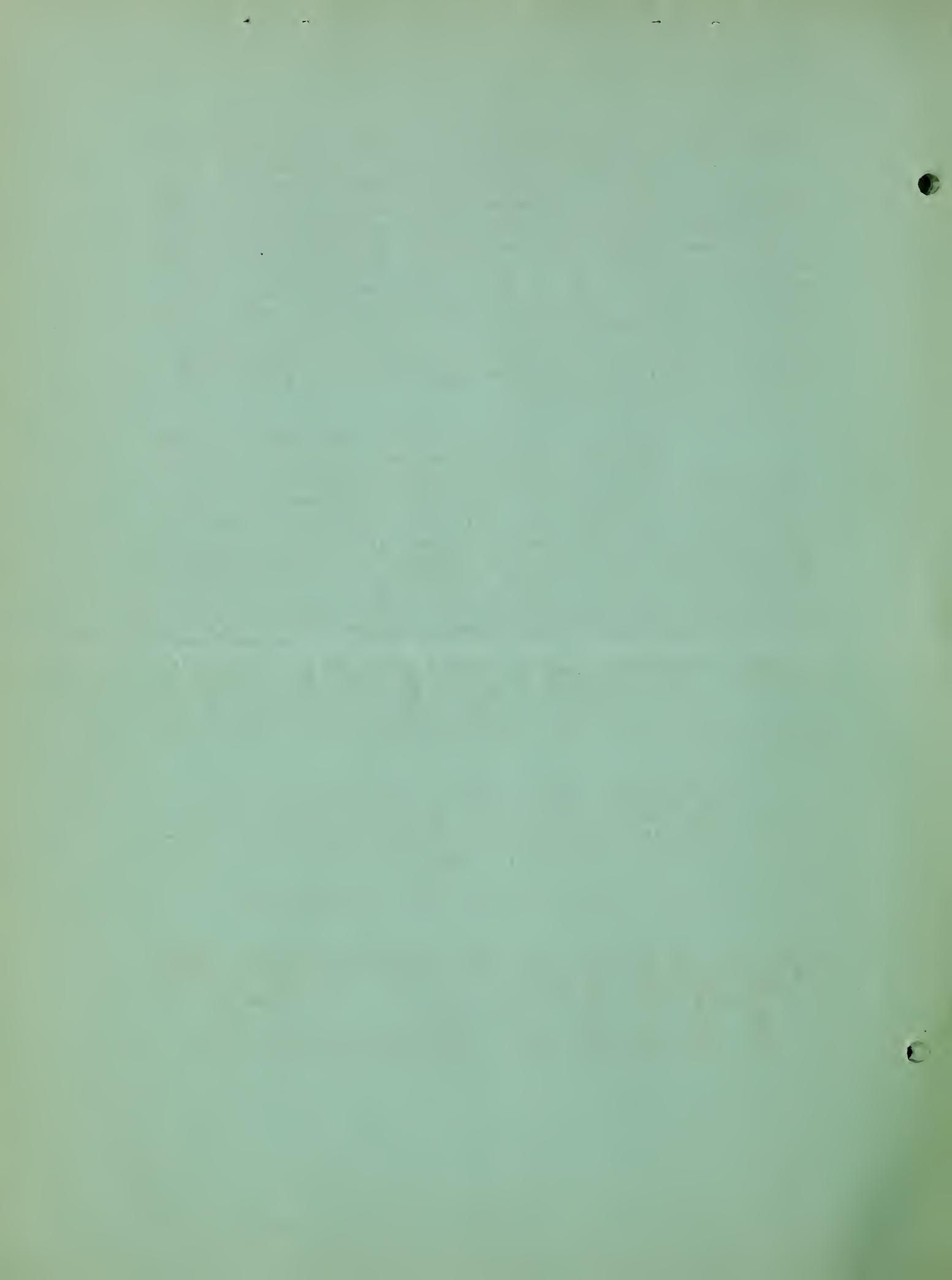
THE 4-H SMILE GENIAL George Farley, State club leader of Massachusetts, wrote us some days ago asking about the club girl with the 4-H SMILE whose picture adorns the cover page of Miscellaneous Circular 77, "Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work," written by C. B. Smith, Chief, Office of Cooperative Extension Work. George is a real human. All good club leaders are. So are we, we hope. Our heroine of Circular 77 is Elina Nordman of Sherman County, Kans. Elina is a member in good standing of both the beef calf and poultry clubs of her county. But it was the 4-H Smile that put her on the cover page. The 4-H Smile always wins!

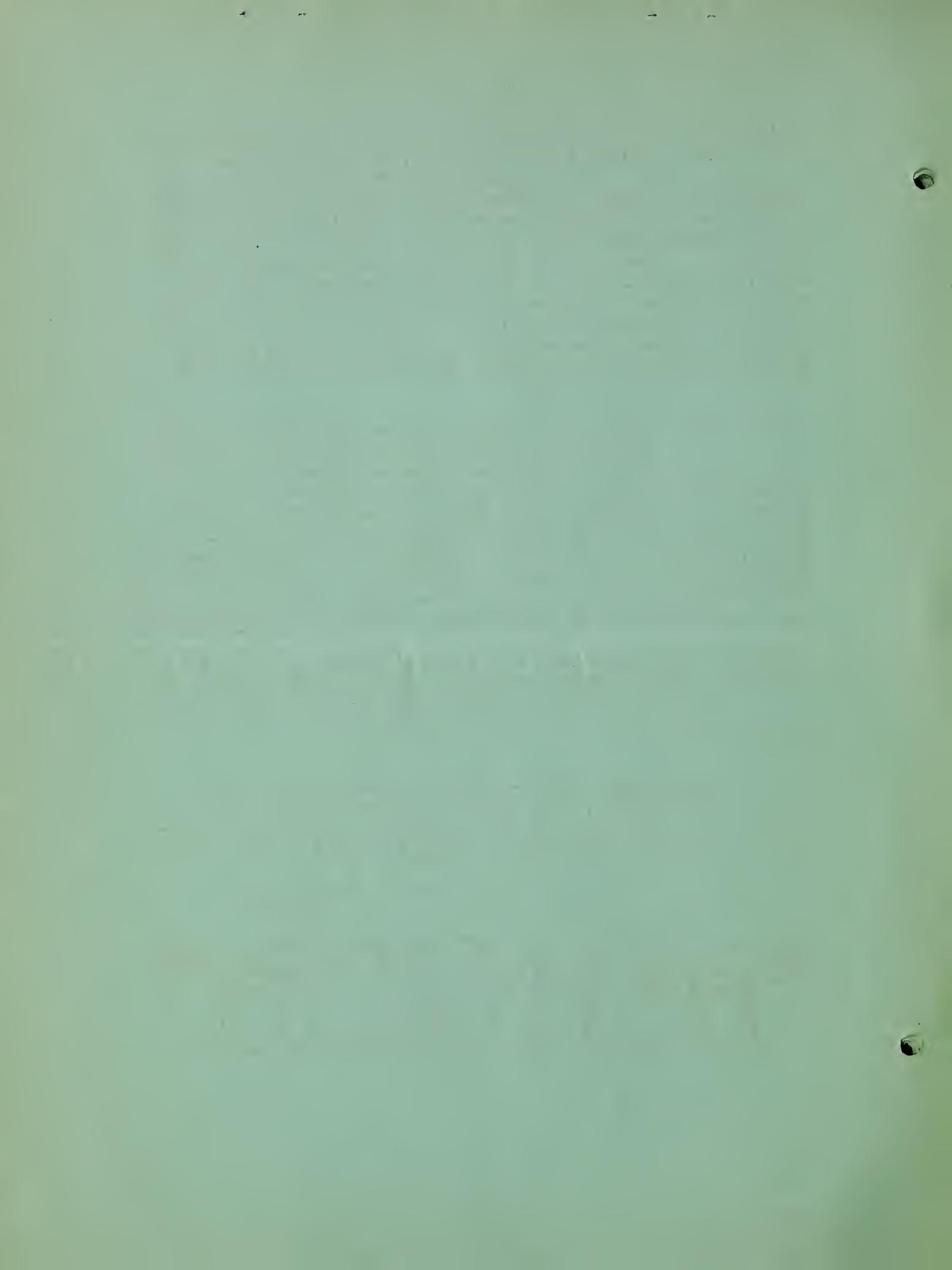
400 MILES OF SMILES Speaking of smiles, if we had all the 4-H boys and girls - 600,000 of them in 1926; 700,000, we hope, in 1927 - lined up in single file we would have 400 actual miles of 4-H Smiles. What could stop that crowd? Tell us, for we don't know.

Big medicine, this 4-H Smile. Good for club members, good for club leaders, good for all kinds of extension agents, good for State directors of extension and yes, good for the extension folks from Washington. We all need it - the 4-H Smile.

P. S. Try one! It sure rests your face - just smiling!







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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Vol. 1, No. 1.

January 1927

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

